



3679

IN THE PATENT AND TM OFFICE

10/Response  
29  
5-19-03

Appn. Number: 09/516,655

**RECEIVED**

MAY 16 2003

Filing Date: 03/01/00

Applicant: Thompson, Thomas C.

**GROUP 3600**

Appn. Title: Retrofit Hurricane-Earthquake Clip

Examiner: Garcia, Ernesto

Mailed May 12, 2003

AMENDMENT E

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Communication mailed 04/10/03, I have included in this response the following:

1. Response to matter about acute angled bends.
2. Certificate of Mailing.

Very respectfully,

*Thomas C. Thompson*  
Thomas C. Thompson

1-808-672-3107

**Response:**

1. The reply filed on 2/12/03 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): the drawings have failed to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the acute angled bends (claims 1 and 5), and the acute angle of claims 3 and 4 must be shown or the features canceled from the claims. The applicant asserts that the first horizontal bend 9 and second horizontal bend 12 are bent at acute angles and are shown correctly on the drawings. Referring to applicant's Fig. 2, the base web 14 is vertical. The second horizontal bend 12 is bent from the vertical toward the horizontal, but since the offset web 13 does not go past the horizon, the angle is therefore less than  $90^\circ$ . This is the examiner's angle 2 minus  $180^\circ$ , or the examiner's angle  $\alpha$  minus  $90^\circ$ . Since the offset web 13 is about  $45^\circ$  from the vertical, the second horizontal bend 12 is an acute angle.

2. From the offset web 13, another acute angle at the first horizontal bend 9 bends the blocking web 3 back toward the vertical. The first horizontal bend 9 is about  $30^\circ$ . This is the examiner's angle  $\gamma$  minus  $90^\circ$ , or angle  $f$  minus  $180^\circ$ . If the first horizontal bend 9 was the same as the second horizontal bend 12, the blocking web 3 would be vertical. By having the first horizontal bend 9 at a smaller acute angle than the second horizontal bend 12, it places the blocking web 3 at an acute angle (about  $15^\circ$ ) from vertical. This allows for placement next to angled frieze boards F. With this better explanation, the examiner can now see that both bends 9 and 12 are acute angles. No drawing corrections are needed at this time since the acute angles described in the claims are shown on the figures.

3. **Certificate of Mailing:**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on (date) 5/12/2003

Typed name of person signing this certificate: Thomas C. Thompson

(Signature) Thomas C. Thompson

Very Respectfully,  
Thomas C. Thompson  
Thomas C. Thompson